ABSTRACT

The present ~~invention~~ *mechanism* provides a method and apparatus
for retrieving documents that are stored in a language other than
the language that is used to formulate a search query. This
invention decomposes the query into terms and then translates
each of the terms into terms of the language of the database.
Once the database language terms have been listed, a series of
subqueries is formed by creating all the possible combinations of
the listed terms. Each subquery is then scored on each of the
documents in the target language database. Only those subqueries
that return meaningful scores are relevant to the query. Thus,
the semantic meaning of the query is determined against the
database itself and those documents in the database language that
are most relevant to that semantic meaning are returned.